Release Date: 26 October 2012

For Immediate Release

Recovering Warrior Task Force

Contact: 703-325-6380

DoD Recovering Warrior Task Force Visits Walter Reed National Military Medical Center

Bethesda, MD – Ms. Suzanne Crockett-Jones, Mr. Ronald Drach, CSM Steven DeJong, Dr. Steven Phillips, and MG Richard Stone of the Department of Defense Task Force on the Care, Management, and Transition of Recovering Wounded, Ill, and Injured Members of the Armed Forces, commonly known as the Recovering Warrior Task Force (RWTF), will be visiting Walter Reed National Military Medical Center (WRNMMC) from November 13 through 15, 2012.

Task Force Members will meet with senior leaders and participate in focus groups with recovering warriors and their families. The purpose of this visit is to provide the RWTF with a real and contemporary understanding of the experiences of recovering warriors and the programs offered to them and their families. Additionally, the RWTF seeks to find ways in which programs can better support our nation's wounded, ill, and injured Service members through their recovery and transition either back to active duty or into civilian life. They will be meeting with individuals from all grade ranges at various points during their visit.

The visit to WRNMMC marks the RWTF's first site visit for this fiscal year as they make their way to multiple installations to gather information from all the Services. The RWTF takes all the information gathered during each visit to prepare an annual report through which they will provide recommendations to the Secretary of Defense in September 2013.

The Recovering Warrior Task Force was chartered on November 18, 2010 and currently consists of 11 members encompassing Department of Defense and non-Department members. In addition to conducting numerous site visits, the RWTF also conducts public business meetings throughout the fiscal year to gather information through public forums and from Department of Defense programs that provide specialized services to wounded, ill, and injured service members.

RWTF is committed to gathering and analyzing information from a range of sources in order to provide the best possible recommendations to the Secretary of Defense on the care and support provided to recovering warriors and their families. The Task Force Members seek to find methods that can enhance the ways in which these Service members are supported and to improve the experience for their families as well.

For more information about the Recovering Warrior Task Force, please visit http://dtf.defense.gov/rwtf. The Task Force can also be followed through Facebook at http://www.facebook.com/rwtaskforce and Twitter at @rwtaskforce.

For more information regarding focus groups, please contact Ms. Heather Moore at 571.329.5852 or heather.moore.ctr@wso.whs.mil. ###